



ALASKA DRUG CONTROL UPDATE

This report reflects significant trends, data, and major issues relating to drugs in the State of Alaska.

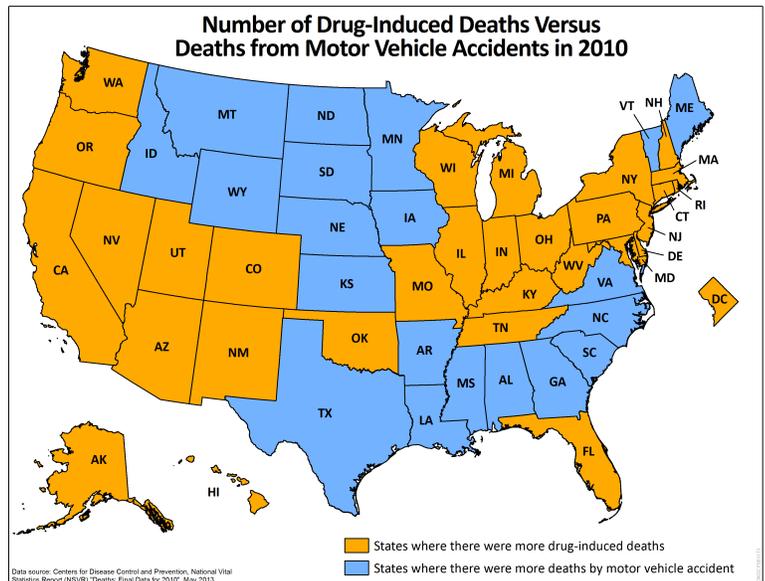
Alaska At-a-Glance:

- In 2010-2011, Alaska was one of the top ten states for rates of drug-use in several categories, including: past-month illicit drug use among persons age 12 or older; past-month illicit drug use among young adults age 18-25; past-month marijuana use among persons age 12 or older; past-year nonmedical pain reliever use among persons age 26 or older; and illicit drug dependence or abuse among persons 12-17.
Source: National Survey on Drug Use and Health 2010-2011.
- Approximately 13.65 percent of Alaska residents reported past-month use of illicit drugs; the national average was 8.82 percent.
- In 2010, the rate of drug-induced deaths in Alaska was lower than the national average.

Drug Use Trends in Alaska

Drug Use in Alaska: The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs), and mental health in the United States. In the most recent Survey, 13.65 percent of Alaska residents reported using illicit drugs in the past month. The national average was 8.82 percent. Additionally, 3.62 percent of Alaska residents reported using an illicit drug other than marijuana in the past month (the national average was 3.33 percent).

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration - State Estimates of Substance Use from the 2010-2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: <http://store.samhsa.gov/shin/content/SMA11-4641/SMA11-4641.pdf>



Drug-Induced Deaths: As a direct consequence of drug use, 84 persons died in Alaska in 2010. This is compared to the number of persons in Alaska who died from motor vehicle accidents (71) and firearms (144) in the same year. Alaska drug-induced deaths (11.8 per 100,000 population) were lower than the national rate (12.9 per 100,000).

Source: WONDER online databases: <http://wonder.cdc.gov/cmfi-icd10.html>

Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Data

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ONDCP seeks to foster healthy individuals and safe communities by effectively leading the Nation's effort to reduce drug use and its consequences.

for the reporting of dispensed prescriptions for all schedule IA-VA controlled substances under state law and Schedule II-V controlled substances under federal law. By March 2013, the PDMP will be provided by Health Information Designs, LLC.

State-Level Action: Drug Take-Back Programs

A comprehensive plan to address prescription drug abuse must include proper disposal of unused, unneeded, or expired medications. Providing individuals with a secure and convenient way to dispose of controlled substances will help prevent diversion and abuse of these substances and demonstrate sound environmental stewardship. Federal rulemaking is underway and will further enhance the viability and scope of state and community take-back programs. In the meantime, states are encouraged to work with the DEA to conduct additional take-back events and educate the public about safe and effective drug return and disposal.

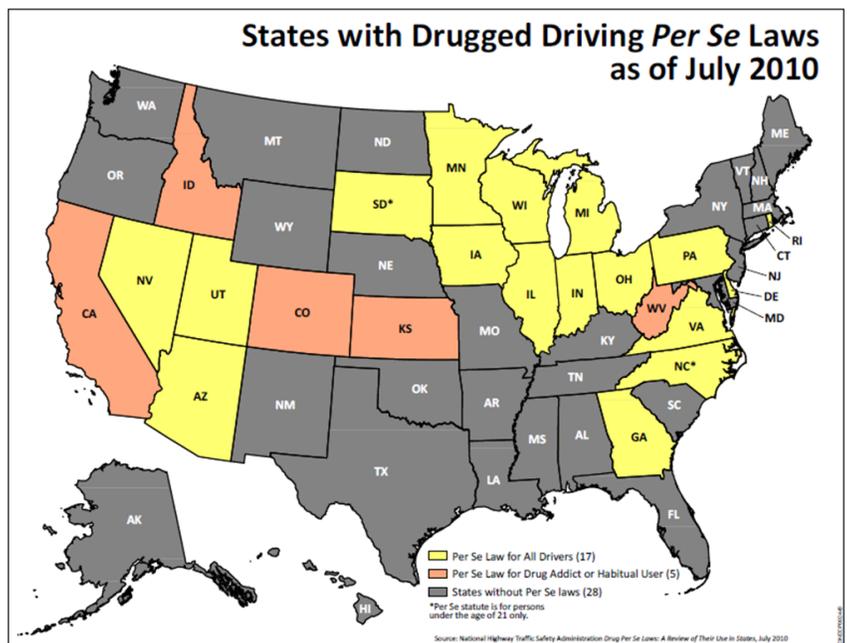
Drugged Driving

ONDCP Action on Drugged Driving

In 2007, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) found that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illicit drugs. According to recent Fatal Accident Reporting System (FARS) data, one in three motor vehicle fatalities (33 percent) with known drug test results tested positive for drugs in 2009. Recognizing this growing problem, ONDCP is working to raise awareness of the dangers of drugged driving, provide increased training to law enforcement in identifying drugged drivers, and encourage states to consider *Per Se* laws to facilitate effective enforcement and prosecution of those who drive with drugs in their systems.

State-Level Action: Enacting *Per Se* Standards for Impairment

Although all 50 states have laws against drugged driving, law enforcement often lacks adequate tools to enforce and prosecute drugged driving. ONDCP encourages states to develop and implement *Per Se* standards that make it illegal to drive a vehicle after taking illegal drugs. This is the same standard used successfully for 12 million commercial drivers in the United States over the past two decades. *Per Se* standards have been adopted in 17 states.



Alaska does not have an operating *Per Se* standard. However, Section 28.35.030 of the Alaska Statutes states that “a person commits the crime of driving while intoxicated if the person operates or drives a motor vehicle while under the influence of any controlled substance or while the person is under the combined influence of intoxicating liquor and a controlled substance.” Refusal to submit to a drug test is admissible in civil and criminal cases.

Source: *A State-by-State Analysis of Laws Dealing With Driving Under the Influence of Drugs*, by the Walsh Group for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

ONDCP Support for Community-Based Prevention

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National Anti-Drug Media Campaign

ONDCP's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign provides consistent and credible messages (including those in Native American and Alaska Native communities) to young people about drug abuse and its consequences. *Above the Influence*, a major component of the Campaign, informs and inspires youth to reject illicit drugs and drinking via a mix of national and local advertising vehicles. The Campaign, in close partnership with local community-based, youth-serving organizations, also conducts teen-targeted *Above the Influence* activities to assist local groups with youth drug prevention work in their respective communities.

The Drug Free Communities (DFC) Program

Recognizing that local problems require local solutions, Drug Free Communities (DFC) organizations mobilize communities to prevent youth drug use by creating local data-driven strategies to reduce drug use in the community. ONDCP works to foster the growth of new coalitions and support existing coalitions through the DFC grants. In FY 2013, the following Alaska coalitions received grants from ONDCP:

- Anchorage Youth Development Coalition
- Community Action Coalition for Prevention (Soldotna)
- Fairbanks North Star Borough COMPASS II Coalition
- Communities Mobilizing for a change on Alcohol
- Mat-Su Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition

Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy http://www.ondcp.gov/dfc/grantee_map.html

Federal Grant Awards Available to Reduce Drug Use in the State of Alaska

The Federal Government awards competitive grants to help states in their efforts to reduce drug use and its harmful consequences. In FY 2012, direct support was provided to state and local governments, schools, and law enforcement organizations in your state for this purpose. Some Federal grant programs are dedicated to reducing drug use and its harmful consequences while others can be used for reducing drug use or for other purposes. In FY 2012, your State received support under the grant programs shown below.

Federal Grant Awards That Help Reduce the Availability and Misuse Of Drugs In The State of AK	
Department / Office / Program Name	2012
Department of Agriculture	\$ 1,934,605
National Institute of Food and Agriculture	
Cooperative Extension Service	\$ 1,934,605
Department of Defense	\$ 4,045,000
The Army	
National Guard ChalleNGe Program	\$ 4,045,000
Department of Education	\$ 5,643,199
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education	
Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	\$ 5,643,199
Department of Health and Human Services	\$ 31,562,853
Administration for Children and Families	
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	\$ 1,412,530
Transitional Living for Homeless Youth	\$ 354,298
Centers For Medicare and Medicaid Services	
Medical Assistance Program - Grants to States for Medicaid To Treat Substance Abuse	\$ 11,279,726
National Institutes Of Health	
Alcohol Research Programs	\$ 406,872
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration	
Block Grants for Prevention and Treatment of Substance Abuse	\$ 4,903,771
Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)	\$ 300,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Projects of Regional and National Significance	\$ 9,796,598
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services-Access to Recovery	\$ 2,709,058
Health Resources and Services Administration	
Healthy Start Initiative	\$ 400,000
Department of Housing and Urban Development	\$ 3,879,611
Community Planning and Development	
Emergency Solutions Grant Program	\$ 299,308
Shelter Plus Care	\$ 999,312
Supportive Housing Program	\$ 2,580,991
Department Of Justice	\$ 6,242,558
Office of Justice Programs	
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program	\$ 1,380,508
Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Discretionary Grants Program	\$ 72,601
Juvenile Accountability Block Grants	\$ 148,766
Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Allocation to States	\$ 400,000
Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners	\$ 46,053
Tribal Court Assistance Program	\$ 3,012,251
Tribal Youth Program	\$ 1,182,379
Department of Transportation	\$ 5,517,184
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	
Alcohol Impaired Driving Countermeasures Incentive Grants I	\$ 953,248
Minimum Penalties for Repeat Offenders for Driving While Intoxicated	\$ 4,563,936
Department of Veteran's Affairs	\$ 355,527
Veterans Health Administration	
VA Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program	\$ 355,527
Executive Office of The President	\$ 875,000

Federal Grant Awards That Help Reduce the Availability and Misuse Of Drugs In The State of AK	
Department / Office / Program Name	2012
Office of National Drug Control Policy	
Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grants	\$ 875,000

File updated 07/31/13.